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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Third Committee
Agenda item 108
Right of peoples to self-determination

Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Yemen: draft resolution

Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/232 of 24 December 2001, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/5 of 12 April 2002,[1]

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Convention of the Organization of African Unity on the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

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Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[2]

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States,

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from criminal mercenary activities,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which they are used or the form they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights by peoples,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[3]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Stresses* the entry into force of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries,[4] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary action to sign or ratify it, as a matter of priority;

6. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that have received visits from the Special Rapporteur;

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[2] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[3] See A/57/178.

[4] Resolution 44/34, annex.

7. *Welcomes also* the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

8. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with domestic law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

9. *Welcomes* the convening by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the second meeting of experts on the question of traditional and new forms of mercenary activities as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, and recognizes its contribution to the process of formulating a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would make more efficient the prevention and punishment of mercenary activities;

10. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue working to propose a clearer definition of mercenaries, including clear nationality criteria, based on his findings, the proposals of States and the outcomes of the meetings of experts, and to make suggestions on the procedure to be followed for international adoption of a new definition;

11. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by the activities of mercenaries;

12. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue taking into account in the discharge of his mandate the fact that mercenary activities continue to occur in many parts of the world and are taking on new forms, manifestations and modalities;

13. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary assistance and support for the fulfilment of his mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Special Rapporteur and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities;

15. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session his findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the right of peoples to self-determination;

16. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

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Fifty-seventh session
Third Committee
Agenda item 107 (a)
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and its resolutions on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[1] most recently resolution 55/81 of 4 December 2000,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[2] in particular section II.B of the Declaration, relating to equality, dignity and tolerance,

Reiterating the need to intensify the struggle to eliminate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance throughout the world,

Welcoming the affirmation that universal adherence to and full implementation of the Convention are of paramount importance for promoting equality and non-discrimination in the world, as stated in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[3]

[1] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.
[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[3] See A/CONF.189/12, chap. I.

02-66659 (E) 291002

Reiterating the importance of the Convention, which is one of the most widely accepted human rights instruments adopted under the auspices of the United Nations,

Mindful of the importance of the contributions of the Committee to the effective implementation of the Convention and to the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as all other forms of discrimination based on race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin,

Noting that the reports submitted by States parties under the Convention contain, inter alia, information about the causes of, as well as measures to combat, contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Emphasizing the obligation of all States parties to the Convention to take legislative, judicial and other measures in order to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Convention,

Recalling its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992, in which it welcomed the decision, taken on 15 January 1992 by the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[4] to amend paragraph 6 of article 8 of the Convention and to add a new paragraph, as paragraph 7 of article 8, with a view to providing for the financing of the Committee from the regular budget of the United Nations, and reiterating its deep concern that the amendment to the Convention has not yet entered into force,

Stressing the importance of enabling the Committee to function smoothly and to have all necessary facilities for the effective performance of its functions under the Convention,

I
Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth[5] and its sixtieth and sixty-first[6] sessions;

2. *Commends* the Committee for its continuing efforts to contribute to the effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[1] especially the examination of reports under article 9 and action on communications under article 14 of the Convention, which contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to fulfil their obligation, under paragraph 1 of article 9 of the Convention, to submit their periodic reports on measures taken to implement the Convention in due time;

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[4] See CERD/SP/45, annex.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 18* and corrigendum (A/56/18 and Corr.1).

[6] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/57/18).

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that a great number of reports are overdue and continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention whose reports are seriously overdue to avail themselves of the advisory services and technical assistance that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights can provide, upon their request, for the preparation of the reports;

6. *Commends* the Committee for its continuing contribution to the prevention of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and welcomes its relevant action thereon;

7. *Encourages* the Committee to continue to contribute fully to the implementation of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and its revised Programme of Action,[7] including by continuing to cooperate and exchange information with United Nations bodies and mechanisms and intergovernmental organizations, in particular with the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Encourages* States parties to continue to include a gender perspective in their reports to the Committee, and invites the Committee to take into account a gender perspective in the implementation of its mandate;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee for its valuable participation in and contributions to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, including its preparatory process;

10. *Invites* the Committee to consider the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[3] in the discharge of its mandate;

II
Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;[8]

2. *Expresses its profound* concern about the fact that a number of States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[1] have still not fulfilled their financial obligations, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General, and strongly appeals to all States parties that are in arrears to fulfil their outstanding financial obligations under article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention;

3. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to accelerate their domestic ratification procedures with regard to the amendment to the Convention concerning the financing of the Committee and to notify the Secretary-General expeditiously in writing of their agreement to the amendment, as decided upon at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the

[7] Resolution 49/146, annex.
[8] A/57/333.

Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 15 January 1992,[4] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 and further reiterated at the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties on 16 January 1996;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure adequate financial arrangements and to provide the necessary support, including an adequate level of Secretariat assistance, in order to ensure the functioning of the Committee and to enable it to cope with its increasing amount of work;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite those States parties to the Convention that are in arrears to pay the amounts in arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

III

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[9] on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have ratified the Convention or acceded thereto, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-five;

3. *Reaffirms once again its conviction* that ratification of or accession to the Convention on a universal basis and the implementation of its provisions are necessary for the realization of the objectives of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and for the implementation of the commitments undertaken under the Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet become parties to the Convention to ratify it or accede thereto as a matter of urgency, with a view to universal ratification by the year 2005;

5. *Urges* States to limit the extent of any reservation they lodge to the Convention and to formulate any reservation as precisely and as narrowly as possible in order to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international treaty law, to review their reservations on a regular basis with a view to withdrawing them, and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention;

7. *Decides* to consider, at its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its sixty-second and sixty-third and its sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth sessions, respectively, the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee and the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention.

[9] A/57/334.

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Fifty-seventh session
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Agenda item 108
Right of peoples to self-determination

Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Suriname, Togo, United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[1] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

[1] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth and previous session,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 56/141 of 19 December 2001,

Also reaffirming its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which, inter alia, upholds the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares* its firm opposition to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

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[2] A/57/312.

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Agenda item 107 (b)
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Venezuela:* draft resolution

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and all other resolutions on this matter,

Recalling also its resolution 56/266 of 27 March 2002 which, in particular, endorsed the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[1] adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001, as constituting a solid foundation for further action and initiatives towards the total elimination of all the scourges of racism,

Recalling further its resolutions 56/265 and 56/267, of 27 March 2002, entitled "Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" and "Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", respectively,

Welcoming with appreciation Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/68 of 25 April 2002,[2] subsequently endorsed by Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/270 of 25 July 2002, entitled "Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance",[3] and also endorsing all the mechanisms

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See A/CONF.189/12, chap. I.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 1* (E/2002/99).

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envisaged in this resolution for the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Welcoming also the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme of action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance,[4]

Welcoming further the report on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance prepared by the former Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights,[5]

Reaffirming its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism and racial discrimination, and its conviction that racism and racial discrimination, in all their forms and manifestations, constitute a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[6]

Reaffirming also its commitment to a global drive for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Stressing the need to maintain continued political will and momentum at the national, regional and international levels in order to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, taking into account commitments undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and recalling the importance of enhancing national action and international cooperation to this end,

Recognizing that the successful implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action requires political will and commitment, adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels, and international cooperation,

Deeply concerned that, despite continued efforts, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and acts of violence persist and even grow in magnitude, incessantly adopting new forms, including tendencies to establish policies based on racial, religious, ethnic, cultural and national superiority or exclusivity,

Particularly alarmed at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large, as a result of the resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

Reaffirming general recommendation XV (42) of 17 March 1993 of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination[7] concerning article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[8] which holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and

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[4] A/57/83.

[5] A/57/204.

[6] Resolution 217 A (III).

[7] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/48/18), chap. VIII.

[8] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in article 5 of the Convention,

Reaffirming also that universal adherence to and full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination are of paramount importance for promoting equality and non-discrimination in the world,

Underlining the importance of urgently eliminating continued and violent trends of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy, tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Recognizing that Governments should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislation to prevent acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations,

Emphasizing that poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion and economic disparities are closely associated with racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the persistence of racist attitudes and practices which in turn generate more poverty,

Recalling the adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[9]

Acknowledging that slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, are among the major sources and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and recognizing that colonialism has led to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Acknowledging also that lessons learned from history are vital in averting future tragedies, and taking into account the duty to remember and to promote dialogue and understanding among peoples and cultures,

Welcoming United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization resolution 31C/28 of 2 November 2001, entitled "Proclamation of 2004 as International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition",[10] a year that will also mark the two-hundredth anniversary of the first State, Haiti, which had been created in the wake of the overthrow of the slave system,

I
General

1. *Stresses* that the prohibition of racial discrimination is a peremptory norm of international law from which no derogation is permitted;

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[9] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[10] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, sect. V.

2. *Expresses* its profound concern about and its unequivocal condemnation of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including related acts of racially motivated violence, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as propaganda activities and organizations which attempt to justify or promote racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in any form;

3. *Reaffirms* that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous, and must be rejected;

4. *Reaffirms also* that racism and racial discrimination are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world, and expresses its firm determination and commitment to eradicate, by all available means, racism in all its forms and manifestations;

5. *Stresses* that States and international organizations have a responsibility to ensure that measures taken in the struggle against terrorism do not discriminate in purpose or effect on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, and urges all States to rescind or refrain from all forms of racial profiling;

6. *Calls upon* all States resolutely to bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes motivated by racism and xenophobia, and calls upon those that have not yet done so to consider including in their legislation racist and xenophobic motivation as an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing;

7. *Also calls upon* all States to review and revise, where necessary, their immigration laws and policies and practices so that they are free of racial discrimination and compatible with States' obligations under international human rights instruments;

8. *Condemns* the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communication technologies, including the Internet, to incite violence motivated by racial hatred, and calls upon States to take all necessary measures to combat this form of racism in accordance with the commitments they have undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[1] in particular paragraph 147 of the Programme of Action, in accordance with existing international and regional standards on freedom of expression, and taking all necessary measures to guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

9. *Condemns also* political platforms and organizations based on racism, xenophobia or doctrines of racial superiority and related discrimination, as well as legislation and practices based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as incompatible with democracy and transparent and accountable governance;

10. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for foreign cultures, peoples and countries;

II
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

11. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to accede to or ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[8] as a matter of urgency, with a view to universal ratification by the year 2005;

12. *Also urges* the States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention;

13. *Further urges* States parties to withdraw all reservations contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

14. *Invites* States parties to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention on the financing of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and calls for adequate additional resources from the United Nations regular budget to enable the Committee to discharge its mandate fully;

15. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to intensify their efforts for the implementation of the obligations they have accepted under article 4 of the Convention, with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[6] and to article 5 of the Convention;

16. *Recalls* with interest general recommendation XV (42) of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on article 4 of the Convention,[7] in which the Committee concluded that the prohibition of the dissemination of all ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as embodied in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and recalled in article 5 of the Convention;

17. *Welcomes* general recommendation XXVIII adopted on 19 March 2002 by the Committee on the Elimination on Racial Discrimination,[11] emphasizing the importance of follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and recommending measures to strengthen the implementation of the Convention as well as the functioning of the Committee;

III
Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

18. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/270,[3] by which the Council approved Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/68,[2] and supports the mechanisms provided in the Economic and Social Council resolution for the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels;

19. *Recommends*, in this context, that the following actions be undertaken in order to give further impetus to the process of implementing the commitments contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action:

(a) That the Intergovernmental Working Group established pursuant to paragraph 7 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/68 convene its inaugural session before the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights and should, thereafter, convene annual intersessional meetings aimed at the accomplishment of its mandate;

(b) That the Working Group referred to above present its initial report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session;

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[11] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/57/18), chap. XI.

(c) That Member States, as well as non-governmental organizations, relevant human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other mechanisms of the Commissions, national institutions, international financial and development institutions, and specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations should participate in the proceedings of and collaborate with the Intergovernmental Working Group by providing it with the necessary information and, where possible, reports in order to enable the Working Group to carry out its mandate;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint, as a matter of priority, the five independent eminent experts, pursuant to paragraph 191 (b) of the Durban Programme of Action, whose terms of reference have been elaborated in paragraph 11 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/68;

21. *Welcomes* the nominations by most regional groups of their experts for the Working Group on People of African Descent, and urges the regional groups which have not yet done so to nominate their candidates as a matter of urgency;

22. *Stresses* the need to ensure adequate financial and human resources, including through the regular budget of the United Nations, for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to carry out its responsibilities efficiently in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

23. *Calls upon* States to contribute generously to the Voluntary Fund established by Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/270 in order to enable the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to accomplish the objectives of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group on People of African Descent, and the anti-discrimination unit;

24. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to ensure overall coherence in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to give guidance to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its anti-discrimination unit, in their activities and programmes;

25. *Calls* for close collaboration between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular the anti-discrimination unit, and Member States as well as all other relevant stakeholders when initiating activities aimed at the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

26. *Invites* all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to become involved in the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and invites specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust, within their respective mandates, their activities, programmes and medium-term strategies to implement and follow up the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system to take further action with a view to the full implementation of all the recommendations of the Conference and to reflect progress in this regard in their reports;

28. *Invites* all human rights treaty monitoring bodies and all mechanisms and subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Human Rights to consider the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in the discharge of their respective mandates;

29. *Calls upon* all States to formulate and implement without delay at the national, regional and international levels policies and plans of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their gender-based manifestations;

30. *Decides* to proclaim 2004 the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, bearing in mind United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization resolution 31C/28;[10]

IV
Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and coordination of activities

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, an analytical report on the extent of implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session;

32. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to undertake, at its fifty-ninth session, a detailed review of the extent of implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade prior to its ending in 2003, based on the findings of the report referred to in the preceding paragraph, and to transmit its recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

33. *Notes* with great concern that, despite many efforts at the international level, the objectives of the Programme of Action of the Third Decade have largely not been achieved;

34. *Reaffirms* that more concrete efforts at the international level are needed to achieve the objectives of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assign high priority to the activities of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade and to earmark adequate resources, including from the regular budget, to finance the activities of the Programme of Action;

36. *Strongly appeals* to all Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Trust Fund for the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and, to this end, requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions, bearing in mind that the activities of the Third Decade will extend beyond 2003 and will now include the implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

37. *Calls upon* all Member States, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations, as well as interested non-governmental organizations, to contribute fully to the effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade;

V

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and follow-up to his visits

38. *Welcomes* the report of the former Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and expresses its full appreciation for the work carried out by him;[4]

39. *Endorses* the renewal of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for three years to ensure that his activities are directed towards the practical implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and, in this regard, welcomes the appointment of the new Special Rapporteur;

40. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States, intergovernmental organizations and relevant organizations of the United Nations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur;

41. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue his exchange of views with Member States and relevant mechanisms and treaty bodies within the United Nations system in order to enhance further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

42. *Also requests* the Special Rapporteur to make the fullest use of all appropriate sources of information, including country visits and evaluation of the mass media and to elicit responses from Governments with regard to allegations;

43. *Commends* those States that have invited and received the Special Rapporteur so far, and requests all States to issue standing invitations to the Special Rapporteur to undertake visits to their countries in accordance with his mandate;

44. *Urges* Member States to implement the recommendations contained in the reports of the Special Rapporteur;

45. *Encourages* closer collaboration between the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular the anti-discrimination unit;

46. *Urges* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide States, at their request, with advisory services and technical assistance to enable them to implement fully the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary human and financial resources to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

48. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

49. *Decides* to remain seized of this important issue in its agenda for the fifty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Third Committee
Agenda item 108
Right of peoples to self-determination

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine,* Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights,[1] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[3] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[4]

Recalling also the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[5]

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* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/250.
[1] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[2] Resolution 217 A (III).
[3] Resolution 1514 (XV).
[4] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[5] See resolution 50/6.

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Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6]

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and for the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

[6] See resolution 55/2.

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Fifty-seventh session
Third Committee
Agenda item 109 (a)
Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments

Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[3] and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

Recalling also that freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a non-derogable right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of internal or international disturbance or armed

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

02-67379 (E) 041102

conflict, and that the prohibition of torture is explicitly affirmed in all relevant international instruments,

Recalling further all previous resolutions or decisions on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, in particular Assembly resolution 56/143 of 19 December 2001 and Commission resolution 2002/38,[4]

Recalling the recommendation contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[5] that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources to assist victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, inter alia, through additional contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Noting with satisfaction the existence of a considerable international network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

Commending the persistent efforts by non-governmental organizations to combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

Mindful of its proclamation, in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997, of 26 June as the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture, including through intimidation, as described in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[6]

2. *Urges* all Governments to promote the full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[5] stresses in particular that all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment should be promptly and impartially examined by the competent national authority, that those who encourage, order, tolerate or perpetrate acts of torture must be held responsible and severely punished, including the officials in charge of the place of detention where the prohibited act is found to have taken place, and that national legal systems should ensure that the victims of such acts obtain redress, are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social and medical rehabilitation, and encourages the development of rehabilitation centres for victims of torture;

3. *Takes note* of the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment annexed to its resolution 55/89 of 4 December 2000 as a useful tool in efforts to combat torture;

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[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[5] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[6] Resolution 39/46, annex.

4. *Urges* Governments to take effective measures to provide redress and to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including their gender-based manifestations;

5. *Stresses* that, under article 4 of the Convention, torture must be made an offence under domestic criminal law and emphasizes that acts of torture are serious violations of international humanitarian law and that the perpetrators are liable to prosecution and punishment;

6. *Notes with appreciation* that one hundred and thirty-one States have become parties to the Convention and urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

7. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States that are parties to the Convention and have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have already made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

8. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention as soon as possible;

9. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles when submitting reports to the Committee against Torture;

10. *Emphasizes* the obligation of States parties under article 10 of the Convention to ensure education and training for personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

11. *Stresses*, in this context, that States must not punish personnel referred to in paragraph 10 above for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

12. *Calls upon* all Governments to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export and use of equipment that is specifically designed to inflict torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

13. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee against Torture and the report of the Committee,[7] submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with his mandate established in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of Governments, advisory services for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the prevention of torture, as well as technical assistance in the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/57/44).

15. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,[8] describing the overall trends and developments with regard to his mandate, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his or her recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture;

17. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to examine questions of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment directed against women, and conditions conducive to such torture, and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention and redress of gender-specific forms of torture, including rape or any other form of sexual violence, and to exchange views with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, with the aim of enhancing further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

18. *Also invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider questions relating to the torture of children and conditions conducive to such torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention of such torture;

19. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his or her task, to supply all necessary information requested by the Special Rapporteur, to respond appropriately and expeditiously to his or her urgent appeals and to give serious consideration to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur in following up his or her recommendations;

20. *Reiterates* the need for the Special Rapporteur to be able to respond effectively, in particular to urgent appeals, to credible and reliable information that comes before him or her, and invites the Special Rapporteur to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, in particular Member States;

21. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his or her report information on the follow-up by Governments to his or her recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered;

22. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

23. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

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[8] See A/57/173.

24. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, and appeals to all Governments and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably by 1 March before the annual meeting of the Board, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund and to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its appeal for contributions and in its efforts to make better known the existence of the Fund and the financial means currently available to it, as well as in its assessment of the global need for international funding of rehabilitation services for victims of torture and, in this effort, to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials;

27. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

28. *Invites* donor countries and recipient countries to consider including in their bilateral programmes and projects relating to the training of armed forces, security forces, prison and police personnel, and health-care personnel, matters relating to the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture, while bearing in mind a gender perspective;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the status of the Convention and a report on the operations of the Fund;

30. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

31. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture.